

MISSION 2030

Shaping the Future of
Dumfries and Galloway
College



Chair's Welcome



“As Chair of the Board of Management, I am proud to introduce Mission 2030, our strategic vision designed to further elevate our college to new heights of excellence and innovation.”

As Chair of the Board of Management, I am proud to introduce Mission 2030, our strategic vision designed to further elevate our college to new heights of excellence and innovation. This strategy builds on our successful Ambition 2025 strategy which developed key sector-leading results in student experience, growth, and people –

- Student performance and satisfaction are above the national sector.
- Commercial income is in line with OECD high-growth enterprises.
- Net zero reduction of over 50%.
- Regional Agreement Outcome targets met.
- High levels of staff satisfaction.
- Increased positive student destinations to further study and employment.

As we look ahead to 2030, our college is embarking on developing its success further as a leader in further and high education. Mission 2030 is designed to shape our institution and ensure we continue to meet the evolving needs of our community, our region, and Scotland.

Caroline Stuart

Chair of the Board of Management



Principal's Welcome

Welcome to Mission 2030, our strategic vision which will propel our College towards a future of excellence and innovation.

As one of the highest-performing colleges in Scotland, Mission 2030 is our commitment to ensuring that our college continues to remain at the forefront of education and skills in a rapidly changing world, supporting opportunities for all and providing the skills for our regional economy to grow. Mission 2030 also recognises the importance of the contribution we play in allowing the strengths and opportunities within our region to flourish. Together with partners, our mission is to build opportunity and growth for our region, community and beyond.

This strategy focuses on four key pillars:

- » Our Students,
- » Our People,
- » Our Learning, and
- » Our Partners

Each pillar represents a vital component of our mission to cultivate a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable College. Mission 2030 ensures we are aligned with broader strategies, such as the Scottish Funding Council's (SFC) strategy for building a responsive and sustainable education system, the National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and Scotland's National Performance Framework (NPF) Outcomes. By embedding these principles, they enable the college to deliver a positive and impactful contribution for our region and Scotland.

Douglas Dickson

Principal and CEO



Our Purpose ↓

Dumfries and Galloway College's purpose is to empower individuals to reach their full potential and enable lifelong learning.

Through innovative education and training qualifications, we equip our students with the skills, knowledge, and resilience needed to thrive.

We nurture talent, cultivate creativity, change lives and make futures for our students.

Our Vision

At Dumfries and Galloway College, we –

- Unleash your potential
- Change your life and shape your future
- We are here for you



Our Values ↓

Helping us to deliver a quality education and community experience with people at the heart of what we do and who we are.



Here for You

Listening, caring and respecting everyone



Act with Courage

Pioneering, agile and continuously evolving.



Deliver our Promises

Committed to delivering action with pride.



Uniting to Succeed

Working together for a sustainable future for all.



Watch our values video



The world in which we live and work is changing. Such is the pace and scale of economic, demographic, political and technological change, that even our idea of working and our skills will be fundamentally different over the coming years.



1. Future Skills – Our Students

The college's overarching focus is on preparing students for the future through a comprehensive approach which is driven by our significant contribution to the skills agenda for Scotland and our region.

We have set four aims for developing our students to thrive in a dynamic and interconnected world, enabling them to contribute as citizens, and achieve their potential in the world of work or in further study.

Strategic Outcome

By 2030 we will:



Digital Literacy and Technology Proficiency



Ensure that all students are digitally confident.



Employability Skills and Career Readiness



Equip students with appropriate skills for learning, life, and work.



Critical Thinking, Research and Inquiry Skills



Further develop students' meta skills.



Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility



Instil a sense of environmental responsibility and sustainability awareness in students.

Scottish Funding Council Strategy:

Building a responsive, coherent, sustainable system

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Climate Action – Quality Education

National Strategy for Economic Transformation

(NSET): Skilled Workforce

Regional Economic Strategy Delivery Plan: Skilled and

Ambitious People, Green and Sustainable Economy

Scotland's National Performance Framework (NPF) Outcomes:

Education

Purpose and Principles for Post-School Education, Research and Skills:

High Quality

2. Our Future Workforce – Our People

Our people are those who are open to learning, adaptable to change, and capable of leveraging technology and data effectively in their roles.

We are fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional development, embracing digital skills for productivity and agility, and promoting data literacy for informed decision-making.

Strategic Outcome

By 2030 we will:



Diverse and Inclusive Workforce



Create a diverse and inclusive workforce reflective of a more diverse society.



Lifetime Learning Culture



Cultivate a culture of enquiry, continuous learning and professional development.



Fair Work



Enhance our fair work agenda.



Data Driven – Decision-Making



Develop data literacy and promote data-informed decision-making.

Scottish Funding Council Strategy:

Building a responsive, coherent, sustainable system

SFC – Coherence and Sustainability: A Review of Tertiary Education and Research:
Fair Work First Agenda

National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET):
Skilled Workforce – A Fairer More Equal Society

Regional Economic Strategy Delivery Plan:

Skilled and Ambitious People – Rewarding and Fair Work

Scotland's National Performance Framework (NPF)
Outcomes: Fair Work and Business

Purpose and Principles for Post-School Education, Research and Skills:
High Quality

3. Future Education – Our Learning

The college plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of learning in our region and beyond.

We are setting a comprehensive roadmap to foster innovation, enhance student success, and ensure relevance in an ever-changing world. Grounded in a commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and adaptability, these initiatives seek to harness emerging trends and best practices to cultivate a dynamic learning environment that empowers students to thrive and excel in the 21st century. We are committed to leveraging technology, promoting diversity and inclusion, providing real-world experiences, and optimising learning outcomes, to equip students with the skills and knowledge to succeed in an increasingly complex global landscape.

Strategic Outcome

By 2030 we will:



Enhanced Digital Learning Environment



Enhanced Digital Learning Environment.



Diverse and Inclusive Education



Promote diversity and inclusion to create an equitable learning experience for all students.



Experiential Learning Opportunities



Expand opportunities for students to engage in real-world, hands-on experiences.



Authentic Assessment and Feedback



Monitor student progress and enhance learning outcomes.

Scottish Funding Council Strategy:

Enabling people to learn and flourish

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Reducing Inequalities – No Poverty

Scotland's National Performance Framework (NPF) Outcomes:

Education – Poverty

National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET):

Innovative and Enterprising

Purpose and Principles for Post-School Education, Research and Skills:

High Quality

4. Future Growth – Our Partners

Our partners are important in the work that we do in enhancing education for Scotland and our region.

In our changing landscape, the pursuit of future growth stands as a cornerstone to our college's strategic vision to enable us to reach new heights of success. We will develop our strategy to enable the college's financial sustainability in an evolving world of education reform. Our collaborations with partners are key drivers in our enhancement and development of skills to enable the economy to flourish and enable our region to match the skills required to employment.

Strategic Outcome



Diversified Revenue Streams



By 2030 we will:

Explore and develop financially sustainable sources of funding.



Alignment with Regional Workforce Needs:



Collaborate closely with local industries and employers to tailor educational programs to meet the specific skills and workforce demands of the region.



Community Engagement and Partnerships



Forge strong partnerships with Local Government agencies, businesses, and community organisations to align college activities with regional economic strategy.



Net Zero by 2030



Drive sustainability in all College areas by 2030.

Scottish Funding Council Strategy:

Generating new ideas and diffusing knowledge

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Affordable Clean Energy, Quality Education & Gender Equality

National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET): Skilled Workforce Economy

Regional Economic Strategy Delivery Plan:

Thriving and Distinct Communities

Scotland's National Performance Framework (NPF)

Outcomes: Communities / Education

Purpose and Principles for Post-School Education, Research and Skills:

High Quality

“ We are fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional development, embracing digital skills for productivity and agility, and promoting data literacy for informed decision-making. ”



Success

Kelvin Thompson

Kelvin began his educational journey with an HNC Business course at DGC. His story exemplifies the impact of our courses in empowering students to reach their full potential and succeed in their professional lives.



“The supportive and accessible lecturing staff made a significant difference in my learning experience, easing the academic pressures and ensuring I could thrive.”

I began my journey at Dumfries and Galloway College in 2015 as part of my modern apprenticeship with Dumfries and Galloway Council, studying for an HNC in Business. The education and support I received were instrumental in securing a full-time permanent position with them upon completion. However, this early career success meant I couldn't immediately continue onto the HND Business course. Years later, needing a degree to advance further, I returned to the College to pursue a degree in Rural Business Management at SRUC Barony, from which I graduated in 2023 with first-class honours and multiple prestigious awards.

The comprehensive HNC and HND Business courses at DGC equipped me with vital knowledge and skills, ranging from finance to marketing, essential for understanding and operating a business. The supportive and accessible lecturing staff made a significant difference in my learning experience, easing the academic pressures and ensuring I could thrive. This education greatly enhanced the quality of my work at Dumfries and Galloway Council, leading to promotions and the opportunity to lead large-scale projects. The courses' emphasis on presentations, though initially daunting, proved exceptionally beneficial, significantly boosting my confidence and competence in professional settings. Having graduated, I am now applying the knowledge and skills gained from my course in my role as Corporate Systems Development Coordinator at Dumfries and Galloway Council. My degree has opened new avenues for career advancement within the Council and beyond, demonstrating the profound impact that the College's education and support have had on my professional development.

Success

Natalya Gibson

Now pursuing her HND, Natalya is well on her way to realising her dream of becoming a PE teacher. Her story highlights the transformative impact of our College in helping students achieve their goals and succeed in their chosen careers.



“ Thanks to my lecturers being so supportive, helpful and friendly I began to get engrossed in my studies, this led to me getting an A in my HNC. ”

Before starting at Dumfries and Galloway College, I had hoped to go to university. However, I did not achieve the grades to get in. I was reassured that this wasn't the end of my dream to be a PE teacher, so I applied to do an HNC in Sports Coaching at the College.

College has been a breath of fresh air, and I have been supported by all my lecturers. At the start of the year, I struggled and found the work significantly different to high school. Thanks to my lecturers being so supportive, helpful and friendly, I began to get engrossed in my studies, which led to me getting an A in my HNC.

In addition to an award as 'Lecturers' Learner of the Year'. I am now doing my HND in sports coaching, and my plan next year is to apply to university. My dreams of becoming a PE teacher are becoming closer to reality. College has also allowed me to make new friends who have also had a huge impact on my college experience and have made it a lovely place to be.

The experience gained at college has helped me become a skating coach at Dumfries Ice Bowl and gain a job with Active Schools.

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